



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First Spanish-language Citizen's Police Academy

Popular citizen orientation course reaches out to Spanish-only speakers

Riverside, CA — After presenting 31 traditional Citizen's Academy courses, the Riverside Police Department is offering its first-ever Citizen's Academy in Spanish, to serve the City's Spanish-only population. The six-week course will be held at the Riverside Police Department's Magnolia Neighborhood Policing Center Community Room, 10540 Magnolia Avenue, Suite B, on Thursday evenings from 6 - 9 p.m.

Classes begin Thursday, October 4, and conclude on November 8, 2007.

The Citizen's Police Academy is designed to form a stronger partnership between citizens and the Riverside Police Department through education. Participants will learn about patrol procedures, use of force, community oriented policing, gang and narcotic investigations, general investigations, firearms familiarization, S.W.A.T., traffic safety, and much more. This will provide participants with an inside look into the Riverside Police Department.

"There is a large portion of our community who speak Spanish only," said Lt. Tim Bacon, commander of the RPD Community Services Group, which hosts Citizen's Academy. "These residents should have the same opportunity to get to know us as our English-speaking attendees. This also creates important contacts with our Spanish-speaking community."

Applicants must live, work or go to school in the City of Riverside. The class size is expected to be approximately 30 people. Classes will be conducted by bilingual Riverside Police Department personnel. For more information, contact Petite Cunningham at (951) 353-7690 or by e-mail pcunning@riversideca.gov.

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